

Message Text

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21

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5002

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 0064

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, MO

SUB: IRANIAN/MOROCCAN RELATIONS

REF: (A) TEHRAN 12594, (B) RABAT 6268

1. MINISTER OF COURT ALAM MORNING JANUARY 5 CONFIRMED RELEVANT POINTS IN REFTELS. HIS LUNCH WITH THE KING LASTED FOUR HOURS DURING WHICH HASSAN COMPLAINED ABOUT BEING NEGLECTED BY THE SHAH AND NOT BEING ADEQUATELY ASSISTED WITH MONEY AND ARMS. CONVERSATION APPARENTLY TOOK PLACE IN A MIXTURE OF ENGLISH AND FRENCH, THE KING NOT BEING STRONG IN ENGLISH AND ALAM NOT BEING STRONG IN FRENCH. NOT HAVING SEEN THE KING FOR SEVEN YEARS, ALAM WAS STRUCK BY HIS "SERIOUSNESS", HIS KNOWLEDGE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND HIS QUITE OBVIOUS APPLICATION TO WORK WHICH, ALAM INDICATED, WOULD HAVE BEEN UNTHINKABLE PRIOR TO THE TWO ATTEMPTS TO UNSEAT HIM. ALAM COMMENTED THAT THE KING "WAS PLEASED THESE DAYS WITH HIS USG RELATIONS". ALSO, ALAM ENJOYED HIS CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR NEUMANN, WITH WHOSE KNOWLEDGEABILITY HE WAS OBVIOUSLY IMPRESSED. (OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO AMBASSADOR NEUMANN AND ESCUDERO IS FACT THAT ALAM USED OLD PERSIAN WORD "MALEK" IN REFERRING TO KING HASSAN IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSING ME BY USE OF MODERN WORD "SHAH".)

2. COMMENT: IT WAS CLEAR THAT ALAM DOES NOT KNOW WHAT THE SHAH IS PREPARED TO DO TO HELP MOROCCO. HE PHRASED IT BY SAYING, "IT IS DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHAT TO DO." THE
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POINT, HOWEVER, IS THAT THE GOI IS CUTTING BACK SEVERELY

ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE OR LOANS, AND THE SHAH HAS INDICATED
IN OTHER CONTEXTS THAT UNLESS OIL LIFTINGS ARE RESUMED
AT NORMAL LEVELS, HE WILL BE UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO HELP FOREIGN
FRIENDS EVEN THOUGH THEIR CAUSE MAY BE INPORTANT TO EITHER THE
ISLAMIC OR THE FREE WORLDS.
HELMS

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NNN

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